

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07

FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03

SP-02 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-05 SS-15

STR-04 CEA-01 L-03 H-02 PA-01 PRS-01 SAM-01 SAJ-01

SAB-01 /100 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/RA:DTMORRISON:GEPAIN:JR

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EB/OCA/CM:LAKLIEFORTH

EUR/CE:DHULICK

NEA/ARN:MHMAUGH

COMMERCE/CAGNE:JHEARN

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R 132227Z JUL 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BONN

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

USINT BAGHDAD

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

AMEMBASSY SANA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

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E.O. 11652: N/A

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TAGS:ETRD, XF, GW

SUBJECT: PROPOSED GERMAN-ARAB CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

REF: BONN 11209

IN EVENT EMBASSY ASKED FURTHER QUESTIONS ABOUT U.S. EXPERIENCE WITH ARAB-AMERICAN CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE, FOLLOWING INFORMATION MAY BE OF USE:

-- SEVERAL PRIVATELY ORGANIZED ARAB CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE ARE ACTIVE IN U.S. (E.G., ARAB-AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IN N.Y., U.S.-ARAB CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IN N.Y. AND HOUSTON, AND MID-AMERICA-ARAB CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IN CHICAGO);

-- THERE IS NO ASSOCIATION BY THESE CHAMBERS WITH THE ARAB LEAGUE AND THERE IS NO REQUIREMENT THAT EXPORTS TO ARAB COUNTRIES BE APPROVED BY SUCH CHAMBERS.

-- U.S.-ARAB CHAMBER DOES PROVIDE SERVICE FOR MEMBER/NON-MEMBERS AUTHENTICATING SIGNATURES/ATTESTING THAT INVOICE PRICING AND ORIGIN DETAILS DO NOT APPEAR UNREASONABLE. U.S.-ARAB CHAMBER INFORMS US, HOWEVER, THAT IT DOES NOT 1) CERTIFY THAT GOODS OR FIRMS ARE IN COMPLIANCE WITH BOYCOTT REGULATIONS OR 2) OTHERWISE ACT AS AGENT TO ENFORCE BOYCOTT REGULATIONS.

-- SIMILAR SERVICES REPORTEDLY PROVIDED BY LOCAL U.S. CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE OFFICES IN LOCATIONS WHERE U.S.-ARAB CHAMBER OFFICES ARE NOT AVAILABLE. LOCAL GERMAN CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE MAY BE PROVIDING SUCH SERVICES FOR GERMAN EXPORTERS.

-- WE ARE NOT IN POSITION TO SPECULATE ON EXTENT TO WHICH ARAB LEAGUE INVOLVEMENT IN ARAB-GERMAN CHAMBER WOULD RESULT IN BOYCOTT ENFORCEMENT BY PROPOSED NEW CHAMBER IN BONN. PRESUMABLY, THERE COULD BE PROBLEM ALONG LINES FEARED BY FRG OFFICIALS. KISSINGER

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